

Mr. E. Fischer	...	...	\$ 12 0
Mr. R. P. Fisher	...	...	" 12 0
AVIATION ASSOCIATION.			
Richard	...	...	\$28 0 6
S. F. Cook's, Cook's River	...	...	115 10 1
R. John's, Parramatta	...	...	15 10 0
Gunnahayn	...	...	25 4 6
A. Phillips	...	...	26 18 1
RICHMOND ASSOCIATION.			
Second Law of Association.			
President—Rev. John Bland.			
Treasurer—John Solihy, Esq.			
Secretary—Major Gen. May.			
Residence 423.			
Mr. William Bowman	...	...	\$ 3 0 0
Mr. Geo. Cornwall	...	...	1 0 0
Mr. J. F. Jones	...	...	1 0 0
Mr. J. Whitney	...	...	1 0 0
Mr. Dight	...	...	1 1 0
Mr. Duffell	...	...	1 1 0
Mr. J. Long	...	...	1 1 0
Mrs. Long and children	...	...	1 1 0
Mr. Norton	...	...	0 6 0
Mr. Maloney	...	...	1 0 0
Mr. Brooks	...	...	1 1 0
W. W. Farrell	...	...	12 0 0
Mrs. W. Farrell	...	...	12 0 0
Mr. Charles Brewster	...	...	12 0 0
Mr. J. Williams	...	...	12 0 0
Mr. Williams	...	...	12 0 0
Mr. Parker, jun.	...	...	12 0 0
Mr. Parker, jun.	...	...	12 0 0
Mr. Philips	...	...	12 0 0
Mrs. Hampstead	...	...	5 0 0
Mr. T. Howell	...	...	12 0 0
Mr. W. Howell and children	...	...	12 0 0
Mr. Timmins	...	...	12 0 0
Mr. G. Pearce	...	...	1 0 0
Mr. Freeman	...	...	12 0 0
Mrs. Freeman and family	...	...	12 0 0
Mrs. Roberts and family	...	...	12 0 0
Mr. Massey	...	...	12 0 0
Mrs. Massey	...	...	1 0 0
Mr. T. John	...	...	0 5 0
Mr. Mann	...	...	0 5 0
Mr. Mann	...	...	0 5 0
Mr. John Timmins	...	...	0 5 0
Mrs. Shepherd	...	...	0 5 0
Mr. K. Pitt	...	...	1 0 0
Mr. K. Pitt	...	...	1 0 0
Mr. J. Townsend	...	...	0 5 0
Mr. G. Anderson	...	...	0 12 0
Mr. G. Anderson	...	...	0 12 0
Mrs. Jane Hogbin	...	...	0 5 0
Ditto ditto	...	...	0 14 3
Mr. H. Timmins, don.	...	...	0 12 0
Mr. Wm. Powell, don.	...	...	1 0 0
Mr. A. Powell, donation	...	...	1 0 0
ST. PETER'S, COOK'S RIVER.			
AUXILIARY BRANCH CHURCH SOCIETY.			
President—Rev. Dr. Steele.			
Treasurer and Secretary—Mr. T. G. Briffell.			
Committee.			
Mr. Fanning,	Mr. Chadler,	...	...
Mr. Taylor,	Mr. King,	...	...
Mr. Holt,	Mr. Ball,	...	...
Mr. Gill,	Mr. Talbot,	...	...
Collection after Sermon by the Lord Bishop of			
First Remittance	...	...	\$5 0 0
	...	...	115 16 1
Total	...	...	140 16 0
Collected by Mrs. Gill, Miss Briffell	...	...	28 0 0
Mrs. Fanning	...	...	3 0 0
Mr. Laidley	...	...	2 0 0
Mrs. Laidley	...	...	2 0 0
Mrs. Briffell	...	...	2 0 0
Miss Briffell	...	...	1 0 0
Mrs. James Briffell	...	...	12 0 0
Miss Fanny Briffell	...	...	1 0 0
Mr. George Briffell	...	...	1 0 0
Mr. Russell Jones	...	...	2 0 0
Mr. Jones	...	...	2 0 0
Mrs. Templeton	...	...	2 0 0
Mr. Goodsell	...	...	1 0 0
Mr. O'Leary	...	...	1 0 0
Mrs. Gill	...	...	1 0 0
Mr. Howard	...	...	1 0 0
Mr. Beagoe	...	...	1 0 0
Mr. Henderson	...	...	1 0 0
Mr. Elward	...	...	1 0 0
Mr. John Walker	...	...	15 0 0
Mr. Walker, junior	...	...	15 0 0
Mr. T. Walker	...	...	15 0 0
Miss Jane McIntyre	...	...	15 0 0
Mr. Thomas Macdonald	...	...	15 0 0
Mr. Dransfield	...	...	15 0 0
Mrs. Dransfield	...	...	15 0 0
Mrs. Rockliffe	...	...	15 0 0
Mr. Flewman	...	...	15 0 0
Mrs. Flewman	...	...	15 0 0
Mr. Tyne	...	...	15 0 0
Mr. M. Tyne	...	...	15 0 0
Mrs. Butcher	...	...	0 5 0
Mr. Gardiner	...	...	0 5 0
Mr. Robbs	...	...	0 5 0
Mr. Robb	...	...	0 5 0
Mr. W. Balloy	...	...	0 5 0
Mr. Webster	...	...	0 5 0
Mr. Webster	...	...	0 5 0
Miss Webster	...	...	0 5 0
Mrs. Trengrouse	...	...	0 1 0
Mrs. E. Roberts	...	...	0 1 0
Mrs. Ingram	...	...	0 1 0
Collected by Mrs. William Gibbes and The			
Miss Gibbes	...	...	\$28 3 9
Rev. Dr. Steele	...	...	3 0 0
Mrs. Steele	...	...	2 0 0
Mrs. William Gibbes	...	...	1 0 0
Mr. Frederick Gibbes	...	...	1 0 0
Master William Gibbes	...	...	1 0 0
Master Alfred Gibbes	...	...	1 0 0
Mrs. Mitchell	...	...	1 0 0
Mrs. Blanchard	...	...	1 0 6
A Friend	...	...	1 0 0
Mr. T. J. Dean	...	...	1 0 0
Mrs. Brown	...	...	1 1 0
Mrs. Daguid	...	...	1 0 0
Miss Daguid	...	...	12 0 0
Miss Anna Daguid	...	...	12 0 0
Mr. Fleming L. Daguid	...	...	1 0 0
Master B. Daguid	...	...	0 2 6
Master L. O. Daguid	...	...	0 12 0
Mrs. Carron	...	...	0 11 0
Mrs. James Handley	...	...	0 10 0
Mr. Collier	...	...	0 10 0
Mr. John Handley	...	...	0 10 0
Mr. John Everett	...	...	0 10 0
Mr. M'Ewan	...	...	0 10 0
Mr. R. M'EKay	...	...	0 5 0
Mr. Alderson	...	...	0 5 0
Mrs. Samuel Pritchard	...	...	0 5 0
Mrs. James Roberts	...	...	0 5 0
Mrs. Sparks	...	...	0 5 0
Mrs. Bryant	...	...	0 3 6
Mrs. James Lindin	...	...	0 3 0
Mr. Bernard	...	...	0 3 0
Mr. Robert Keon	...	...	0 5 0
Mr. John Smith	...	...	0 3 0
Mrs. Roberts	...	...	0 2 6
Mrs. Smith	...	...	0 2 6
Mrs. Jantich	...	...	0 2 6
Mrs. Phillips	...	...	0 2 6
Mrs. J. Lucas	...	...	0 2 6
Mrs. Denton	...	...	0 3 6
Mrs. W. M'EKay	...	...	0 3 6
Mrs. Lizon	...	...	0 3 6
Mrs. Cornelius Bentley	...	...	0 3 6
Mrs. Boldie	...	...	0 3 6
Mrs. Anna Brown	...	...	0 3 6
Mrs. Alfred Goodsell	...	...	0 3 6
Mr. John Barker	...	...	0 3 6
Mr. Charles Tertie	...	...	0 3 0
Mrs. A. Brown	...	...	0 3 6
A Friend	...	...	0 3 6
A Friend	...	...	0 3 6
A Friend	...	...	0 3 6
A Friend	...	...	0 3 0
A Friend	...	...	0 3 0
Mrs. Andrews	...	...	0 3 0
Mrs. Daguid	...	...	0 3 0
Mr. Elway	...	...	0 3 0
Mrs. Reeves	...	...	0 3 0
Mrs. Shorters	...	...	0 1 6
Mrs. Leach	...	...	0 1 0
Mrs. Johnston	...	...	0 1 0
Mrs. Pitts	...	...	0 1 0
Mr. Johnston	...	...	0 1 0
Mrs. Perce	...	...	0 2 0
Mr. Hall	...	...	0 1 0
Mrs. Gagner	...	...	0 1 0
Mrs. Sider	...	...	0 1 0
Mrs. Lincoln	...	...	0 1 0
Mrs. Cole	...	...	0 1 0
Mrs. Thomas	...	...	0 1 0
Mrs. Hawlett	...	...	0 1 0
Mrs. James Bottle	...	...	0 1 0
Mr. Chayler	...	...	0 1 0
Mrs. Ewington	...	...	0 1 0
Mrs. Salway	...	...	0 1 0
Mr. William Briggs	...	...	0 1 0
Mr. William Cook	...	...	0 1 0
Mr. James Anderson	...	...	0 1 0
Sundry small subscriptions	...	...	0 4 3
Collected by Mrs. Chahler, Miss Stephenson,			
and Miss King	...	...	\$28 10 0
Mrs. Cook	...	...	5 0 0
Mr. Terry	...	...	1 0 0
Mr. King	...	...	1 0 0
Mr. King	...	...	1 1 0
Miss King	...	...	1 1 0
Miss R. King	1 0 0
Mr. King	1 0 0
Mr. Cook	1 0 0
Mr. Cook	1 0 0
Mr. Chahler	1 0 0

[illegible]

Sydney.

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/nla.news-page149696

EDUCATION OR IGNORANCE.

In the present phase of the Parliamentary campaign, the Assembly represents to the public a rowing whorl of figures and numbers, ever flowing to and fro, and eddying around an important Legislature. It is, however, most important that a watchful eye should, nevertheless, be kept over other portions of legislation, unconnected with taxation, for close to each vortex there always appears a treacherous surface of glassy stillness; and still water is generally to be deep. Thus, whilst attention is paid to the question of finance alone, a measure which may deeply affect the future well-being of the colony, may easily be overlooked and slip on to become law, or nearly so, without any notice, and certainly without a thorough sifting of its merits.

In the Legislative Assembly, on Thursday, the 4th instant, leave was obtained by the Attorney-General to introduce two measures, which, affecting, as they do, the educational standard within the colony, are worthy of the most serious consideration and deliberate investigation.

The title of one is, A Bill to confer certain privileges on Graduates of the University of Sydney. The preamble states the self-evident expediency that exists "to encourage the pursuit of a regular and liberal education" in our only endowed University of Sydney, and no doubt could gain the title of a graduate therein should not justly acquire the privileges proposed to be conferred by this bill. In the other country, those who have obtained degrees at most of the known universities, reap substantial benefits in the pursuit of other liberal professions. Thus, the law student, who is also a graduate, is enabled to be called to the bar, after a probation of three years, dedicated to his legal studies. Repeated acts of Parliament have decreed that graduates should be "admitted" in consideration of the learning and abilities requisite for taking such degree, "a becoming article of law" to practicing attorneys or solicitors, by shortening the period of their articles from five to three years.

The bill now proposed by the Attorney-General is conceived in a similar spirit. No probationary time of avowed candidness for admission to the Bar is required by our law. Capacity and knowledge at the examination, then solicited, is alone the sound and healthy test—besides, of course, certificates of good repute. Yet the words of the old English Statute applicable to the greater portion of the examination in the Ancient Classics, both Greek and Latin, and in mathematics, "both Greek and Latin, and in mathematics," are still in force in our examinations, and in consideration of the learning and abilities requisite for the taking such degree in the University of Sydney, it is most fitting that the graduate candidate should be deemed qualified by polite learning to be called to the Bar, when sufficiently tested in law.

The second section gives article clerks, who are graduates, the privileges of being article clerks, a shorter period of three years' service, as in England and Ireland, and it waives the preliminary examination before entering upon office, as required by the Rules of the Supreme Court.

The provisions of this bill are highly to be commended, and they carry out the object intended in the preamble. There are, however, a few additions which might well be made. It is that a Bachelor of Law should be comprehended in this Act, as we have been long misled that a "Faculty of Law" should be established within the University. The English Acts confer the privilege on any Bachelor of Law as well as on the Bachelor of Arts, and the latter should be some limitation of the privilege, which such privilege should extend to the English Acts do so, and there the privilege is allotted in four years, from the taking of degree, as the time within which such privilege must be exercised. There is this advantage such a provision, that a person, who for years left the University, and may have relapsed into almost pristine ignorance, yet some fifteen years later may claim his privilege of degree under this Act.

Let me now call most particular attention to other Bill introduced at the same time by the Attorney-General.

The bill is of the most just and meritorious, the perfect equality with barristers of land or Ireland, proclaimed by it, as to all offices, for all barristers admitted under Act of Council of the eleventh Victoria, No. 1.

Thus, the first part of the preamble of first Bill, and the first section with its title, cannot be impeached, but highly lauded.

Let who can applaud, and who cannot impeach the inexpedient attempt to raise the standard of literary excellence by the high educational tone of the barristers. As above named, as the Victoria, No. 57. Let us remember that the University of Parliament in one session are all to be one continuous roll. How can the Legislature avow their desire to encourage the pursuit of a regular and liberal education in one Act and then by their Act of Council in four weeks "a regular and liberal education" as the requisite for the offices of Justice and of the Peace Judges, and Master in Equity, &c., without positively injuring themselves? Either regular and liberal education is good everywhere or is everywhere. As yet, the Legislature has not declared in favour of regular and liberal education. The University of Parliament is incorporated by an Act of Council, No. 31, and its preamble declared, "that it is deemed expedient, for the better government of religion and morality, and the diffusion of useful knowledge, to hold forth to the residents in the colony of New South Wales, without distinction whatsoever, an encouragement for pursuing a regular and liberal education;" and that, too, introduced by the stirring eloquence of Wentworth! The bill followed in three years.

The passing of the University of Sydney Bill, in fact, established a college, founded upon the basis of a degree of legal proficiency as might claim with any Bar of any court. That Act was passed after long and careful consideration of the subject—as the Council of 1848 can show—and how can it be to fritter away the principle of it, the proof of the Act having miscarried.

Mr. Stephen, Mr. Milford, Mr. Butler, or Mr. the worse for having been examined in ancient classics—both Greek and Latin—mathematics, &c. Are they not, on the one hand, to have been benefited and instructed by such a course of regular and liberal education, can Mr. Deane Thompson, Darvall, can Mr. Donaldson, or Mr. Hay, individually, or collectively as a Cabinet Minister, with lower the educational merit for those, from whom the Ministry of New South Wales will select their Chief Justice, their Prime

Justices, aye, and their Attorney and Solicitor General?

Can the Attorney-General himself deem the knowledge of Greek, a superfluity as a possession for an Attorney-General, when as happy quotation as has of late been made, proceeded from his lips, moulded in that language!

PHILADELPHIA.

9th December, 1856.

PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

The following paper, on "The necessity for a further exploration of the interior of the Australian continent," was read by Mr. JOHN THOMSON, Deputy Surveyor-General, before the members of this Institution on Wednesday evening last.

The object of the paper which I am about to read to you is to point out the necessity for obtaining further information on the geography of the interior of the Australian continent.

My paper will, I fear, be found to convey but a very slight and imperfect sketch of the subject, my desire being rather to awaken attention, and promote discussion, than to enter on any elaborate disquisition on the physical geography of this extraordinary continent. I rather seek to show what remains to be done in the way of exploration than what is already accomplished. The subject is one of great scientific importance, and Captain Mitchell, in a paper which he addressed to the Philosophical Society, so recently as in the beginning of 1854, observes, "That it is the greatest remaining geographical problem of the day."

The progress of geographical discovery having at length exhausted their favourite fields for enterprise, namely, the North Pole and the African interior, an opportunity is now presented for turning their attention to the Australian continent. It is really matter of surprise that so many valuable lives should have been sacrificed, and so much wealth expended, year after year, in obtaining geographical information of a character so largely unimportant, or, at least, in utility, to the world, which would result from a more perfect acquaintance with the interior of this country. Indeed, any additional information on a subject of so much interest to the community as well as to the scientific world in general, involving as it does great commercial as well as geographical results. At present, all the geographical information of the Australian continent is confined to the coast and the portions occupied by colonies at its south-east corner, where the features of about a quarter of the continent are known; and, other than the whole of the eastern side, there is a range extending almost parallel to its shores, and at an average distance of about eighty miles from the sea. This range, on its eastern side, throws down a series of numerous rivers; on the western side the water which it throws down belongs to the systems of the Murray and the Victoria of Mitchell, for the sources of the latter are in the north, and the former extends to the north, by running southerly they receive nearly the whole of these western waters; whilst further inland we find some scanty watercourses (forming the Victoria) coming from the north as the range at the base of the mountains, and ending an outlet by Lake Torrens into Spencer's Gulf. Thus much of the physical geography of Australia is pretty well determined, but we know no more.

It is a fact that, although every country in the world has, I believe, been thoroughly examined and explored, and particularly those countries in which Great Britain has any interest, we are still in entire ignorance as to three-fourths of the surface of the Australian Continent; so ignorant are we, that none of the numerous theories which have from time to time been put forth about the interior carry with them the authority of science, and the truth, and one after another the hypotheses of our geographers have been overthrown. The notion of a river flowing from the Northern Districts to the North-West was exploded by the journey of Sir Thomas Mitchell, and Dr. Leichardt, and the notion of a river rising in the centre of Australia, was exploded by the journey of Captain Sturt, who found instead a sandy desert. Mr. Eyre, referring to his journey along the shore of the great Australian Bight, which he found to be a dreary waste, with an elevation of from 300 to 500 feet above the sea, says "What was the nature of this mysterious interior, bounded as it is by a table land, without a river, a lake, or a single watercourse, or drainage of any kind, for so vast a distance? Can it be that the whole is an immense interminable desert?"

But to return to what I was remarking as to the extent of our ignorance of the interior of the continent, and north-west coast the outlets of many rivers are found; still there is nothing to lead to the conclusion that they are of any magnitude, and consequently the range of the interior is a mystery, and the probability is, as on the eastern coast, that the rivers of the interior are of the same character, that they rise at a very great distance from the sea; near their sources they are mountain torrents, but in the lowlands they become rivers with slow and meandering currents, winding through fertile and extensive valleys or plains, which are subject to sudden and terrific inundations. The western coast, though more barren, presents the same features, and the interior, in fact, with the exception of the great Australian Bight, which is the only part of the continent, which, according to Mr. Eyre, is not for 1000 miles intersected by a single watercourse, is a vast waste of sand, and there is every reason to suppose, that the interior of the continent, which, which throws down waters into the sea on the one side, and into the interior on the other. As already pointed out, we know what becomes of the inner waters of the East, I do not know whether they belong to the Murray and the Victoria; but do not know what becomes of the inner waters of the Northern, Western, and the Southern Coast Ranges—whether they flow into the sea, or whether they belong to some Caspian. Let the imagination, however, ever so little, it is easy to conjure up the existence of some extensive and fertile country, far to the west of the Victoria, and the interior of the continent, and receiving the waters of about 3000 miles of coast range, if, according to the theory of Mr. Eyre, in which he has great faith, we imagine the interior to consist of a series of salt lakes, or swamps, alternating with sandy deserts, and at intervals, isolated ranges, it is very possible that, among these ranges, tracks of a better, and even of a rich and fertile land might be met with.

It is, however, a very singular fact, that, instead of these bright pictures, the whole interior may be a desert; and, if so, one of the largest deserts in the world. Now, although it would not profit us much to be assured of this, still it is important in a scientific point of view that we should know what is the character of such a vast extent of unexplored country. Having shown how great a blank there is in the geographical knowledge of this continent, I now proceed to lay before you my views on the subject.

The exploration of Australia can never, in my opinion, be satisfactorily accomplished by any expedition, or by individual exertions, nor even by any small body of adventurers; the mishaps and misfortunes that have already befallen the greater number of such expeditions bear me out in my opinion. All that is required is one great and well organized expedition, an expedition so well found that there should be nothing to contend with but the want of water.

The course such an expedition should take is similar to that which is contemplated in the Victoria, and much lamented Leichardt, namely, to traverse the continent from east to west, that is from Moreton Bay to Swan River; but Leichardt's intention was to traverse the continent from north to south, and he was always distressed for water, whereas I contend that the track should be along the inner side of the coast ranges. From what I have said of the coast ranges, from the northern and western coasts, it is gathered that the interior of the continent, of various travellers, it will, I think, appear that it would be very possible to follow the interior slopes of the ranges as to secure a supply of water; for as it is that it is a one great and well organized expedition, an expedition so well found that there should be nothing to contend with but the want of water.

It is a fact that, although every country in the world has, I believe, been thoroughly examined and explored, and particularly those countries in which Great Britain has any interest, we are still in entire ignorance as to three-fourths of the surface of the Australian Continent; so ignorant are we, that none of the numerous theories which have from time to time been put forth about the interior carry with them the authority of science, and the truth, and one after another the hypotheses of our geographers have been overthrown. The notion of a river flowing from the Northern Districts to the North-West was exploded by the journey of Sir Thomas Mitchell, and Dr. Leichardt, and the notion of a river rising in the centre of Australia, was exploded by the journey of Captain Sturt, who found instead a sandy desert. Mr. Eyre, referring to his journey along the shore of the great Australian Bight, which he found to be a dreary waste, with an elevation of from 300 to 500 feet above the sea, says "What was the nature of this mysterious interior, bounded as it is by a table land, without a river, a lake, or a single watercourse, or drainage of any kind, for so vast a distance? Can it be that the whole is an immense interminable desert?"

It might become his duty to retreat; but a certain amount of geographical knowledge would still have been obtained, namely, that the communication between the East and West could not be carried out overland.

Having regard to the foregoing considerations as to water and grass, the party should consist of 50 or 100 men, taking with them, of course, drapery and packs loaded with all necessities; but the great resources would be, to drive before them thousands of sheep and cattle, so that they could experience no want of the means of existence, even if their other provisions should fail. Such a contingency could, however, be easily guarded against, by proper calculation. Supposing that the expedition travelled five miles a day, the distance being about 2000 miles, the journey would occupy some two years, and there would be plenty of time for a survey of the whole route and for full examination of vegetable and animal life; whilst by the aid of photography representations of every object of interest, even if their other provisions should fail, now that it is found that the natives can be disciplined and made to act as an armed police force, that any future exploring party would derive great advantage from their assistance. The difficulties which would arise in providing for the wants of such a large party appear formidable; but were it even required to move a small army across the continent, such difficulties would not, I apprehend, be allowed to stand in the way of the expedition. 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SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.
December 11.—Vanguard, schooner, 150 tons, Captain Scott, from Port Phillip, 5th instant. Captain, agent.
December 12.—Herald, brig, 100 tons, Captain Hardy, from Port Phillip, 5th instant. Captain, agent.
December 12.—Herald, brig, 100 tons, Captain Hardy, from Port Phillip, 5th instant. Captain, agent.

DEPARTURES.
December 12.—Herald, brig, 100 tons, Captain Hardy, to Port Phillip, 5th instant. Captain, agent.
December 12.—Herald, brig, 100 tons, Captain Hardy, to Port Phillip, 5th instant. Captain, agent.

PROJECTED DEPARTURES.
This day.—Monarch, for Melbourne; Emily Jane, for Geelong; Sydney, for Melbourne; and others, for various ports.
December 13.—Herald, brig, 100 tons, Captain Hardy, to Port Phillip, 5th instant. Captain, agent.

COASTERS INWARDS.
December 11.—Herald, brig, 100 tons, Captain Hardy, from Port Phillip, 5th instant. Captain, agent.
December 12.—Herald, brig, 100 tons, Captain Hardy, from Port Phillip, 5th instant. Captain, agent.

COASTERS OUTWARDS.
December 12.—Herald, brig, 100 tons, Captain Hardy, to Port Phillip, 5th instant. Captain, agent.
December 13.—Herald, brig, 100 tons, Captain Hardy, to Port Phillip, 5th instant. Captain, agent.

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The remaining orders of the day were postponed till future days, and the House adjourned at fifteen minutes past nine o'clock.

In the Legislative Assembly yesterday, the House went into Committee of Supply, and passed several items in the Estimates for the administration of justice.

The bill to incorporate the Australian Mutual Provident Society was referred to a select committee.

The Masters and Servants Bill, as framed by the select committee appointed to consider the same, was read a second time.

Sundry returns were ordered to be laid on the table.

The House went into committee on the Municipal Bill, and passed several clauses proposed by Mr. NICHOLS, amongst which were those involving the adoption of the principle of the ballot at municipal elections.

Mr. HOLT resumed at great length, his speech on the educational resolutions, in which he was counted on at a previous occasion.

The resolutions were negatived without a division. Mr. COWPER obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the law relating to the South Head Road Trust.

The Liverpool and London Fire and Life Insurance Company's Bill was read a second time and passed through committee.

The Australian Trust Company's Bill was read a second time.

The report of the whole House on the Deserted Wives and Children's Bill was adopted.

The House adjourned at one o'clock till Tuesday next.

It is fortunate for our readers that the discussions in committee on the estimates are epitomised; but they can form no notion of what they are. They especially reveal the peculiar characters and tempers of men.

The topic—money—is one which admits of all the ranges of intellect. Providing they are not silly enough to venture on calculations which demand arithmetical correctness, the greatest dolt can ask questions, juggle numbers, and look wise and mischievous. To speak to a resolution under the restraints of a formal debate requires some little notion of rule; but in committee the most stupid and ill-informed ramble and rave, and insult without limit and without responsibility.

It is necessary to report to the House any breach of order, and those to whom a scene in the House is an agreeable excitement, would rather count than avoid the possibility of censure.

The conduct of some members during this week has gone even beyond their former license. For a time, some respect to the dignity of the Assembly, the opinions of the public—perhaps even a little modesty, impose a trifling restraint.

But nature and habit have indicated their sovereignty—we have now too often an exact copy of the manners of a prize-ring with a dash of the debating club. The abuse of the privileges of discussion by some members is such as to indicate a settled purpose to destroy it. Some speak from ten to twenty times on every question, and give their full swing to insolence and absurdity. Were any persons to use the same insulting tone and language, and to interrupt the progress of business in any other chamber, they would not be voted a nuisance—no such formality would be used; they would be absolutely carted away. But it is according to law, that well-educated gentlemen should be compelled in the discharge of a constitutional duty to sit and hear the most distressing examples of human utterance—voices to which a hurdy-gurdy would be charming music—a nasal pronunciation clipped, and enunciated—opinions which, if naturalised in this colony, would make it a by-word whereby men keep their engagements and act uprightly towards their dependents.

How low we shall fall if it were difficult to imagine, but there must come a time of reaction. People will get tired of a menagerie. The excitement of a street row is only transitory; no one, however amused by a concert of wild cates, would wish to attend for a hundred nights. When the surprise is over, a buffoon in a legislature—a bully or a fool—becomes a bore; even to those who may have encouraged, and may be yet willing to endure him for the mean services he may perform when a Government is to be obstructed, and public business delayed.

No member of the House could have heard the speech of Mr. DEAS THOMSON, could have heard the obstructive party without sympathy and regret. We doubt if he was discreet in revealing the vulnerable heel. The knowledge that a certain course will drive Mr. MANNING to renounce political life to preserve life itself, will stimulate their virulence. To get rid of such a man would be really an achievement, and an object worth striving for. Mr. MANNING's health may break down a little sooner than some others, but no man could conduct public business under the present forms of the House without being sacrificed in the long run.

The Ministers are obliged to remain in the House from the first to the last moment to avoid being counted out. Every member feels himself insulted if his name is not noted by the whole Cabinet. The interminable quibbles, and the studied rudeness to which the forms of the House will not permit a suitable reply, wear out and crush the most elastic of intelligent minds sooner or later. There are men, mere flesh and blood, to whom mental toil is as little known as to a magpie—their dull pugnacity, their stupid impudence, and their moral obtuseness, provide for them a triple shield. None but men looking to office as a living, would endure the wear and daily mortification. There are men in the country to whom the salary of office would compensate for everything. They would thankfully submit to all the degradation of a membership without power, of precedence without honour, if they could only get out of it enough to keep the wolf from the door. They are not, however, the men with whom the country would naturally wish to confide for six months in the year the unwatched disposal of the finances of the country.

We see so way out of the difficulty. The curtailment of the liberty of speaking must follow its abuse. What men cannot cure nor endure they will find means to abolish. It will be requisite to limit the right to speak and the discretion of speakers. The convenience of a free and unrestricted conversation cannot be enjoyed at the expense of those great objects for which it was given. Government is the object of all subordinate arrangements; the principle of representation itself is only valuable for this end; but if the whole purpose of such institutions can be defeated through these forms, they must go. This is the best defence of their abolition, where they now cause to exist—that they did not facilitate but obstructed the business of life. Mr. WARRICK placed this point clearly before the Opposition in a recent debate. The abuse of the freedom of debate in committee is taking an unfair advantage of that mutual indulgence which, under the seal and guarantee of their mutual honour, gentlemen allow to each other.

Since the wild cates were let loose about the

Legislature, we have imagined that a change for the better had passed over several of the older members. The Spartans made their slaves drink that they might teach sobriety to their children, and perhaps the chattering have been sent by a provident constituency to show as in a mirror how low they sink who, from personal vanity or faction, degrade the office of a legislator. The old offenders were, too, something more than magpies. Some had intellect that only wanted generosity; others had heart that only wanted intelligence; some, while they tried the temper of those about them, gave promise of higher qualities. But now, what have we got? Who can be astonished that those who listen to our ANGELOS and PORCENAS sometimes—while not indisposed to think favourably of their capacity—regret that they have driven into the ground the education of Mr. FLOOD and the modesty of Mr. MARTIN.

SYNOPSIS OF THE CENSUS OF 1886.

The following has been politely furnished by the Registrar-General:

	1. AGE.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.
Under 2 years	8,171	8,656	16,827
2 and under 4 years	7,679	7,632	15,311
4 " 14 "	11,779	11,034	22,813
14 " 21 "	22,390	22,390	44,780
21 " 45 "	15,790	17,881	33,671
45 " 60 "	58,464	41,758	100,222
60 years and upwards	17,480	14,450	31,930
	5,076	2,012	7,088
Total classified	147,091	119,098	266,189

	2. EDUCATION.		
	Can write.	Can read.	Cannot read.
Males.	1,000	4,422	16,767
Females.	1,171	11,731	23,238
Persons.	2,171	16,153	40,005
Under 2 years	612	1,676	16,767
2 and under 4 years	1,163	11,731	23,238
4 " 14 "	2,171	16,153	40,005
14 " 21 "	2,171	16,153	40,005
21 " 45 "	2,171	16,153	40,005
45 " 60 "	2,171	16,153	40,005
60 years and upwards	2,171	16,153	40,005
Total classified	147,091	119,098	266,189

	3. NATIVE COUNTRY.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.
Australasia and New Zealand	66,692	56,622	123,314
British America	1,011	42	1,053
England and Wales	47,601	26,097	73,698
Ireland	24,304	28,892	53,196
Scotland	9,659	6,874	16,533
Other British Dominions	1,333	839	2,172
United States of America	650	155	805
China	1,011	42	1,053
Germany	3,458	1,787	5,245
France	380	191	571
Other foreign countries	1,257	282	1,539
Total classified	147,091	119,098	266,189

	4. SOCIAL AND DOMESTIC CONDITION.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.
Married	102,567	74,785	177,352
Single	44,524	44,313	88,837
Total classified	147,091	119,098	266,189

	5. RELIGION.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.
Church of England	76,484	55,627	132,111
Presbyterians	15,367	12,536	27,903
Congregationalists	1,234	1,946	3,180
Wesleyans	7,936	7,668	15,604
Other Protestants	2,539	1,722	4,261
Roman Catholics	39,327	35,912	75,239
Hindus	835	699	1,534
Mahomedans and Pagans	1,892	48	1,940
All other Denominations	687	410	1,097
Total classified	147,091	119,098	266,189

	6. OCCUPATIONS.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.
Trade and commerce	5,622	448	6,070
Agriculture	16,738	—	16,738
Grazing of Sheep	8,533	—	8,533
Grazing of cattle and horses	3,845	—	3,845
Horticulture	1,093	—	1,093
Wine growing	136	—	136
Mines in gold and silver	4,451	—	4,451
Ditto in iron and other metals	29	—	29
Ditto in coal	371	—	371
Unskilled labourers	17,396	—	17,396
Unskilled labourers	14,446	—	14,446
Legal	233	—	233
Medical	441	—	441
Clerical	293	—	293
Teachers	693	—	693
Other Educated professions	457	—	457
Domestic service	4,311	12,375	16,686
Paupers, aged and infirm	716	314	1,030
Miscellaneous	10,309	6,978	17,287
None, or not stated	58,899	98,312	157,211
Seafaring persons, not including unclassified	2,146	—	2,146
Total classified	147,091	119,098	266,189

UNCLASSIFIED PERSONS, not included in the foregoing, are in the General Tables.

	In 5 wayside Inns and Private Houses.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.
Colonial Vessels in Port Jackson	1014	113,117	114,131
141 ditto, at Sea	1014	10,140	11,154
23 British and 14 Colonial Vessels in Port Jackson	751	4,758	5,509
10 Foreign vessels in Port Jackson	218	6,233	6,451
	1387	136,358	137,745

Of whom 3115 are crew.

8.—EDUCATION IN RELATION TO RELIGION.

	Persons to twenty years and upwards.		
	Total.	Can write.	Can read.
Church of England	76,484	55,627	132,111
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